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RNC visitors give Twin Cities high marks

[Bea Chang](#) ■ 9 mins ago

The Republican National Convention is supposed to generate nearly \$150 million in new spending for the Twin Cities area. It's also generating some positive reviews for the area.

"Twin Citians have a humble sort of pride about where they live," the *New York Times* writes. "And boy, are they friendly. People from both coasts will have to get used to the fact that when clerks ask how they are, they really want to know."

Delegates are giving us high marks, too.

"Very beautiful, very green," said California's Mei Lien Chang. "It's unlike Los Angeles, which is brown."

But even the nicest places aren't immune from comedy. Jon Stewart ribbed the Twin Cities during "The Daily Show" Tuesday night.

"Saint Paul is SOOO much better than Minneapolis," Stewart joked. "These are not Twin Cities. Minneapolis is the Danny DeVito to St. Paul's Arnold Schwarzenegger."

Stewart's popular show is broadcasting from downtown St. Paul this week. Correspondent Larry Wilmore spoke with KARE 11 before Wednesday's taping for "The Daily Show."

"The weather is real beautiful," Wilmore said. "Yesterday was just the perfect day for macing."

(Click on video for extended interview with Wilmore.)

Pepper spray jokes aside, we've heard one constant comment from delegates: they didn't realize downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis were so far apart.

"Part of it's over here and part of it's over there," Texas delegate Jan Koehne said. "You have to take a cab and it's a little expensive."

Wen Chang said he has already spent about \$500 on cabs this week.

But with so much to see and so little time, you can expect many delegates will return to the Twin Cities.

"We're going to have to do another trip," Koehne said. "Or you're gonna have to have another convention. And don't wait 100 years to do it."



By [Joe Fryer](#), KARE 11 News

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